

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 are presently active in this case. The present Amendment amends Claims 1-4.

The outstanding Office Action objected to the drawings, the specification and Claims 1, 2 and 4 because of informalities. Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Yamane et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,494,723, herein referred as "Yamane '723"). Claims 2 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamane et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,447,325, herein referred as "Yamane '325") in view of Yamane '723.

In response to the objections to the drawings, Fig. 1A, Fig 1B and Fig. 2 are labeled with the expression "related art." Replacement sheets to replace the original sheets for Fig. 1A, Fig. 1B and Fig. 2 are submitted herewith.

In response to the objection of the Specification, the paragraph at page 10, line 26 is amended to replace the term "plane 26" with "plane 25."

In response to the objections to the claims, Claims 1-4 are amended to correct the noted informalities.

In response to the outstanding rejections of Claims 1-4, and in light of the amendments to the claims, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of these rejections, as discussed next.

Briefly recapitulating, Applicants' invention relates to a connection box including a wiring board configured to have a first electric wire arranged on an obverse surface and configured to have a second electric wire arranged on a reverse surface.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1A, Fig. 1B and Fig. 2. The amended Figures include the expression “related art,” consistent with the Specification. These replacement sheets replace the original sheets including Fig. 1A, Fig. 1B and Fig. 2.

Attachment: 3 Replacement Sheets for Fig. 1A, Fig. 1B and Fig. 2.

Turning now to the applied prior art, Yamane '723 discloses an electric wiring board that has both a wire circuit formed by a wire and a printed circuit formed by a printed conductor. However, Yamane '723 fails to teach a wiring board configured to have a first electric wire arranged on an obverse surface and a second electric wire arranged on a reverse surface. On the contrary, the Yamane '723 patent explicitly teaches that the wire circuit board 1022 is mounted on an upper surface of the printed circuit board 1020, and that a multiplicity of rectangular projections 1023 arranged in a checkered pattern are projectingly formed on the *upper surface* of the wire circuit board 1022, and wire routing paths 1024 are respectively formed between these projections 1023. Covered wires for medium-current circuits and for small-current circuits are routed in these wire routing paths 1024.¹ Yamane '723 also discloses that the lead portion 1033 is selectively connected and soldered to the printed circuit 1021 formed on the reverse surface of the printed circuit board 1020 through the slit 1027.² The lead portion 1033 on the reverse surface of the printed circuit board is not a wire, as required by Applicants' claims.

Additionally, Yamane '723 fails to teach or suggest that the press contact terminals are *selectively* erecting the tab portion on at least one of said obverse surface or said reverse surface. As to be seen in Fig. 7, Yamane '723 only discloses that terminals 1030 are only erected on *one side* of the wire circuit board 1022.

In addition, the combination of the Yamane '723 and Yamane '325 patents does not teach the features of Claim 2. Specifically, the combination fails to teach a tab portion erected on each of the obverse and reverse surfaces, as recited in Claim 2.

Therefore, the prior art fails to teach or suggest every feature recited in Applicants' claims, so that Claims 1-4 are patentably distinct over the prior art. Accordingly, Applicants

¹ See Yamane '723 for example in column 14, lines 47-57 and in Fig. 7.

² See Yamane '723 for example in column 15, lines 25-29 and in Fig. 7.

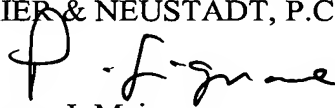
respectfully traverse, and request reconsideration of, the rejections based on the Yamane '723 and Yamane '325 patents.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal Allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-4 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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